

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph 35 of the specification with the following amended paragraph 35:

[00035] An example of particularly useful dimensions for the vacuum panels and islands are as follows: For the panel having an island with a horizontal rib, the panel has a height of approximately 3.477 inches and a width of approximately 1.887 inches. The rectangular island is centrally placed within the panel and has a vertical length of approximately 1.959 inches and a width of approximately 1.029 inches. The horizontal rib has a depth of approximately 0.175 inch as measured from the outermost surface of the island. The island has a thickness of approximately 0.239 inch as measured from its outermost surface to the inner surface of the panel. Referring to Fig. 4, in some embodiments, the horizontal rib has a depth \underline{D} of at least one-half of the thicknesses \underline{T}_1 , \underline{T}^2 of the island. In other embodiments, the horizontal rib has a depth \underline{D} of at least two-thirds of the thicknesses \underline{T}_1 , \underline{T}_2 of the island. In still other embodiments, the horizontal rib has a depth \underline{D} of at least three-quarters of the thicknesses \underline{T}_1 , \underline{T}_2 of the island.